29:Dempsey M-5 (1940-1954) 1955
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must of necessity concentrate the greater part of his efforts on the youth of the tribe through the medium of the school. Here the teaching of the 'three Rs' is combined with a solid grounding in the Catechism, and at the end of the boy's third year, if he has proved a satisfactory pupil and desires to become a Christian, he is baptized. A further year in the mission Elementary School is followed by four years Intermediate education. At the end of this period the boy may, if of sufficient ability, pass on to the Secondary School, and may ultimately attain to the highest honours of University College, Khartoum. Alternatively, when his Intermediate or Secondary course is finished, the pupil, either of his own choice, or because further promotion is denied him, may elect to seek employment, usually in one of the Government departments, or to proceed to a course of training as an Elementary or Primary School teacher.

In any case the priest is always at hand to guide, guard and instruct him. In the mission school, naturally, he lives in a Catholic community and atmosphere. If he is transferred to a Government School, he finds a Catholic chaplain in residence who will continue his religious education, say Mass for him daily, give him the Sacraments and act as his mentor and guide in general. Our hope is that, with all these measures and safeguards, the Shilluk boy, now fast approaching manhood, with eight or ten years' schooling behind him, his character strengthened and firmly set in Catholic practices, will bring a Catholic influence into his tribe, will marry a Catholic wife and found a Catholic family, and so will prove a corner-stone in the building up of Christianity in the tribe during the next generation.

This is the reason why I, in common with the majority of newly-arrived missionaries, was set to serve my apprenticeship in the school. Two days after my arrival at Detwok, I was firmly though not unkindly conducted to a classroom, confronted by two rows of husky youths and told, 'This is Class IV; go ahead and teach them.' Left to my fate, I gave the class what I fondly hoped was a friendly grin but which was probably a sickly leer, and the pupils responded with a